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Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975)

Proposal of amendments by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)

Note by the Secretary-General

In its decision 2009/250 of 30 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General[1] on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[2] decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention as amended, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal.

The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a Depositary Notification[3] dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General is hereby communicating to the Council a note verbale dated 27 December 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations (see annex).

* E/2010/2.

[1] E/2009/78.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[3] C.N.474.2009.TREATIES.3.

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Annex

Note verbale dated 27 December 2010 from the Permanent Mission of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in relation to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, has the honour to transmit the following position of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia:

- The Government of the Republic of Macedonia, in accordance with its general obligations under article 4 of the Convention, will be against the removal of all references to the coca leaf and will not support the proposed Bolivian amendment.
- Through the proposed amendment all references to coca leaf chewing would be removed from the 1961 Convention, which currently lists the coca leaf as a controlled substance. The position of the Republic of Macedonia is in line with that of the World Health Organization, which recommended not changing any control measures.
- The Macedonian Government is concerned that the integrity of the Convention may be compromised if the Bolivian proposal is accepted.